



The Canal Zone Philatelist



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Picture Post Cards in a Canal Zone Stamp Collection

by Gary B. Weiss

Many, if not most, Canal Zone stamp collectors also collect/accumulate Canal Zone picture post cards. Some of the cards belong in both collections. Certain stamp usages (Scott No. 46 and 67) are more common on card than on cover. Some cards went to interesting destinations; some show unusual auxiliary postal markings. Cards illustrating Panama stamps (Fig. 1) are very attractive; a large number of varieties of these cards exist. This particular card is an early one with undivided back. The stamps and their perforations are embossed.



Fig. 1 Picture post card with embossed stamps and perforations

The two cards discussed in this article are exceptional as they are the "original" artwork for two stamps, Panama Scott Nos. J1 and J2. The first Canal Zone postage due stamps (Canal Zone Scott Nos. J1-3) were overprinted US stamps. The government of Panama protested that using overprinted US postage due stamps represented a loss of revenue for them. As Panama had no postage due stamps to overprint, a rush order was given to the American Bank

Note Company (ABNCo) which had been producing stamps for Panama. ABNCo also overprinted stamps of Panama for Canal Zone use. Possible design subjects were suggested to the ABNCo by the government of Panama; their files included photographs, book illustrations, and two picture post cards.

The picture post card shown (Fig. 2) was the basis of the



Fig. 2 Picture post card used as design for Panama Scott No. J1

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Upcoming Meetings

Future National Meeting as a Participating Society

CHICAGOPEX 2014

Itasca (Chicago), IL, November 21-23, 2014

Reminder: 2014 CZSG Mail Sale

The closing date for the 2014 Mail Sale is December 1, 2014 at 5pm (CST). The catalogue for the sale has been enclosed with this issue of the *CZP*. Contact your CZSG Secretary if you did not receive it.

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The Canal Zone Philatelist

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Canal Zone Study Group

Commonly used abbreviations

BEP = Bureau of Engraving & Printing

CZ Stamps = *Canal Zone Stamps*, by Gilbert N. Plass, Geoffrey Brewster, and Richard H. Salz, The Canal Zone Study Group, 1986

CZP = *The Canal Zone Philatelist*

Entwistle = *The Postal Markings of the Canal Zone, 2nd Edition*, by Lawson P. Entwistle, The Canal Zone Study Group, 1992

French = *Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties on US Bureau-Printed Postage Stamps*, by Loran C. French, Bureau Issues Association, 1979

Scott = *Scott's Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps*, current edition

Tatelman = *Canal Zone Postage Stamps*, by E.I.P. Tatelman, Canal Zone Postal Service, Mt. Hope, CZ, 1961

ABNCo = American Bank Note Company

NPM = National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian Institution

Journal citations are *Journal Name*, Volume No., Pages.

Anything without a byline is written by the Editor.

Kindly Note

The President's report in the 2nd Quarter issue of the CZP was incorrectly credited to our President, as it was written by our Vice-President, Mike Demski. The Financial Report was submitted by Dick Larkin, our Treasurer. Also, in the previous issue, 2nd Quarter 2014, the whole number at the bottom of each page should be 191, not 190.

Recruit a New CZSG Member today

Picture Postcards in CZ Stamp Collection

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design of Panama J1. The card was manufactured by the Tokio Bazaar and was card F2838 13. The legend, "Entrance to fort, San Lorenzo," the clouds, and most of the foreground were removed for the stamp design. The ABNCo notes are on the reverse (Fig. 3). The notes read, ".01¢ Panama Stamp Feb. 1915 F4484/ Seymour & Maple"; F4484 was the job number. There are other post cards with almost identical designs in my collection. Vibert & Dixon, card No. 7, has a different cloud pattern. A Maduro, brown back card, shows another cloud pattern and the legend "Old Spanish forts destroyed by Morgan at Porto Bello, Panama." Because of the rush to production, the title attached to the art work, "Castillo de San Lorenzo Chagres," was used although the illustration pictured Fort San Geronimo. The stamp was intended to be orange. Fig. 4 shows a card with the two models attached. The first, a composite model for the 1c stamp (Fig. 5a) has the frame hand drawn in orange (as intended) with a photographic vignette. The second (Fig. 5b) is a photographic model reduced for size. This Panama stamp was overprinted by the ABNCo to prepare Canal Zone J4, J7, and J11C. The Canal Zone postage due, J4, was issued almost one year before the Panama postage due was issued.

The other card in the ABNCo archive (Fig. 6a) is one of the few unused picture post cards belonging in a stamp

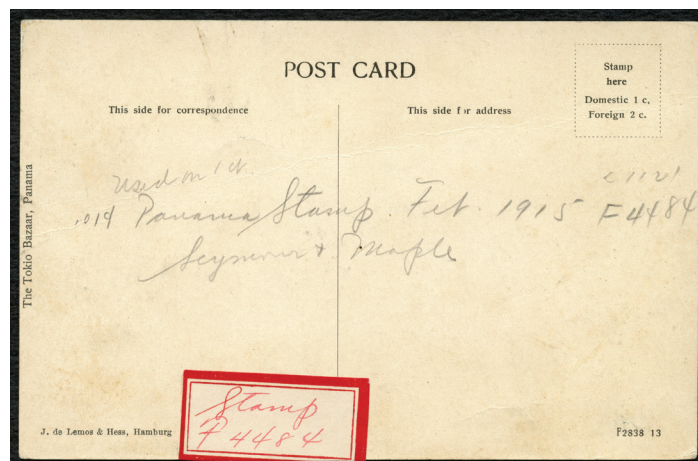


Fig. 3 Back of card in Fig. 2



Fig. 4 Models for 1c stamp mounted on card

collection. It was the basis of the 2c Panama postage due, Scott No. J2. The card is a “brown Maduro” K No. 73 and was modified by the ABNCo by painting over the title, the clouds, and the palm fronds at left to improve clarity and contrast. An unmodified card is shown in Fig. 6b. The ABNCo notes on the reverse are shown in Fig. 7. The pencil note reads, “used on 2¢ Panama Stamp/ Seymour Feb 1915/ F4484.” The composite photographic model (Figs. 8a, 8b) uses a photograph of the frame of the 10c value with hand-drawn value tablets and title. The vignette is an added photograph with the background whited out by hand. The photographic model (Fig. 8c) is reduced for size and has a marginal note to correct the spelling of “Christobal” by removing the H. The Panama 2c postage due was overprinted to become Canal Zone J5, J8, and then J10.



Fig. 5 a) Composite model for 1c stamp b) Photographic model for 1c stamp

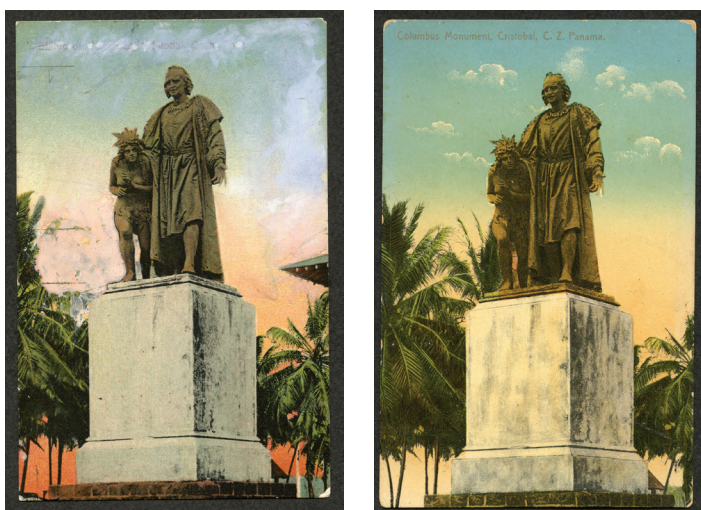


Fig. 6 a) Modified picture post card used as design for Panama Scott No. J2 b) Unmodified card



Fig. 7 Back of card in Fig. 6a



Fig. 8 a) Composite photographic model for 2c stamp
b) Hand-drawn value tablet from Fig. 8a
c) Photographic model for 2c stamp

Comments from Readers

Mike Demski reports finding a new example of a very rare marking in a collection lot in an auction. It is one from Toro Point, which became Cristobal, Station B. Only one of the three examples of the marking shown in *Entwistle* is on a piece of mail, in that case as a received marking on a post card shown on p. 79 of *Canal Zone Postal Stamps* by E. I. Tatelman. It is not identified as a Toro Point marking in that book as it is very light, requiring a very close look to make it out.

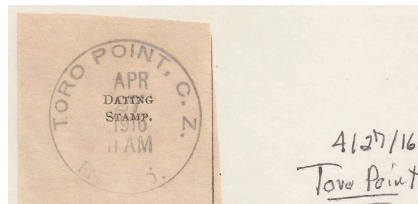


Fig. 1
Recently
discovered
Toro Point,
CZ marking

The other two previously known examples are on postal forms, as is the newly found example of this marking shown in Fig. 1. The printed words “Dating Stamp” can be made out on this example that was found in a collection sold as an auction lot, identifying it also as most likely being on a Postal Form.

Vernon W. von der Heydt has written commenting on the marking on a cover illustrated in Paul Ammon’s article “By Trans-Atlantic Mail,” *CZP* 49(4): 43 (2013). He comments that the cover shown in Fig. 2 bears the round German censorship “Pass Stamp” “Ae” which is “Auslandsbriefprufstelle” (Foreign Mail Censorship Station), in this case “Office e” located in Frankfurt which censored mail between the US and France. The “Pass Stamp” was applied to indicate German censorship did not read the letter. More details can be found in the October 1995 issue of *Third Reich Study Group* 29(4): 10.

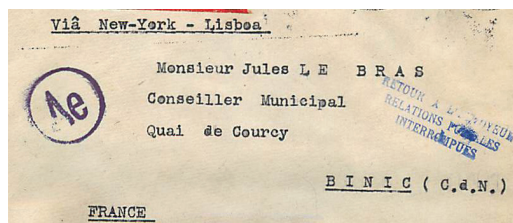


Fig. 2
Pass stamp
reading Ae
applied by
German
censors

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Design of the 1920 Panama and Canal Zone Cincuenta Centésimos (50c) Stamp

by David Zemer

The 1920 Canal Zone and Panama 50c and \$1, *Un Balboa*, stamps were ordered, designed, and printed simultaneously. Therefore, for the 50c stamp, we will follow a similar outline as the previous \$1 article. [1] Figures with material germane to both stamps but which were in the \$1 articles will be cited as appropriate.

November 1919. The 1920 50c stamps and the \$1 stamps were ordered from Panama by the Canal Zone in November 1919. With the exception of the correction of a spelling error on the \$1 stamp the design steps were similar to those in Table 1. [1]

On November 29, 1919, the Canal Zone sent Panama two identical 240 x 170 mm photographs to be used as a model for the 50c stamp vignette.

These photographs show the German ships SS *Grünwald* and SS *Prinz Sigismund* in the Balboa dry dock on April 16, 1917. They are being refurbished and renamed SS *Gen. Geo. W. Goethals* and SS *Gen. W.C. Gorgas*, respectively. These are two of the four HAPAG ships that had sought refuge from the British fleet at the outbreak of WW I and had been sitting in the previously neutral port of Colon since August 1914. In 1917 the United States declared war on Germany, took control of all four ships, and interned the remaining German

sailors on Taboga Island. [2]

Panama ordered the 50c stamps, 50,000 for the Canal Zone, and 50,000 for Panama, from the American Banknote Company. The two 50c orders were identical aside from the surcharge for the Canal Zone.

January 1920. On January 7, the order form shown in Fig. 1 began the ABNCo process. As can be seen on the form, both the Foreign Order number, *F6272*, and the Schedule number, *9463*, were identical to the numbers of the \$1 stamp. [1]

February 1920. A photograph taken of an essay was dated February 2; two weeks later a second essay was photographed (Figs. 2a and 2b). Both essays have a vignette that is a reduced version of the dry dock photograph with a hand-drawn frame with Chinese white lettering. The second essay is the one chosen for the final stamp design. Note that in the second essay the frame has been entirely redrawn to widen the vignette horizontally. The second vignette uses the same photograph as the first but with a close-up of the dry dock.



Fig. 2 a) Photographic record of unused 50c essay February 2, 1920 b) Photographic record of accepted 50c essay dated February 16, 1920

The redesign of the essay explains why there were two dates, February 3 and February 16, stamped on the back of the board later approved by Panama as shown in Fig. 3.

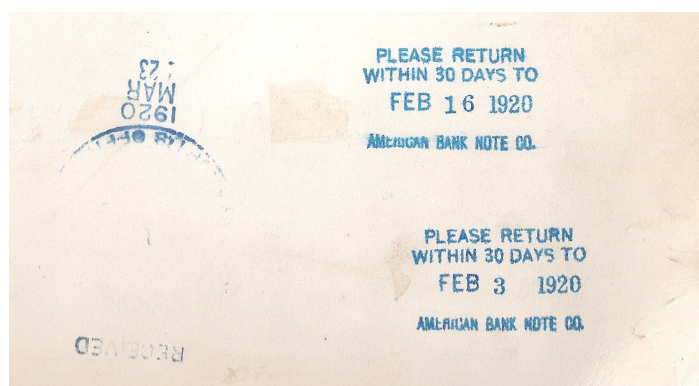


Fig. 3 Back of essay board with dates from both essays. March 23 is the date the essay was received after approval by Panama

March 1920. The storage envelope indicates that the essay was sent to Panama on February 18 and returned to the ABNCo by March 22. [1] This return is documented by the RECEIVED stamp dated March 23 in Fig. 3.

March 22, 1920 is important when following the ABNCo 50c stamp design and production process because it is the official Date of Order for this stamp. The ABNCo used the same procedure of indicating the Order Date along with the

Rep. Panama *9463* *MLL* *10*

Date 1/7/20 Model to H.J.B.

POSTAGE STAMPS
~~BANK NOTES~~ *F6272*

General description Steel eng. in 2 colors

Quantities 50,000 - B.O.50
50,000 - B.O.50 - surcharged "CANAL ZONE"

FACE PLATE

Title in full _____

Size of note for work 7/8 x 1 11/32"

DENOMINATION { Words Cincuenta centésimos de balboa
Numerals 50

Text Rep. República de Panamá - Correos - 50

Under or over vignette: "Dique de Balboa, Canal de Panamá"

Bottom - 50 - Cincuenta centésimos de balboa - 50

General style similar to order #5082

Vignette Herewith: Dry dock

Title of signing officers _____

Numbers _____ Series _____

Date line _____

Stub _____ Countersign _____

Remarks Vignette in black
Frame in 59 Yellow

TINT

Kind of tint _____

Denomination _____

Panto _____

Color _____

Remarks _____

BACK PLATE

Title _____

Denomination _____

Vignette _____

Color _____

Fig. 1 ABNCo order form for the 50c Centésimos stamp, January 7, 1920

F-Number on design materials for other Panama stamps to distinguish different orders, especially printings of the same stamp using the same plate, from each other.

April 1920. The two identical dry dock photographs sent from the Canal Zone to Panama, referred to here as Photo #1 and Photo #2, were glued to stiff boards that have deteriorated over time. During the design process notes from the engravers were written on the front and back of the board in pencil. As they can be difficult to read they are transcribed here, but only Photo #1 is shown here in Fig. 4.

Photo #1 is 240 mm in length and 175 mm in height and glued to a board 270 mm x 210 mm. The order number “6272” is written on the top left corner of the board. On the top right corner the vignette die number, “Special C-1662,” is reduced. “Eng(raved) by Geo. Lambert and finished by R. Savage April 12/20” is over the center of the photograph.



Fig. 4 Dry Dock #1 from Sosa Hill showing SS Gen. Geo. W. Goethals (SS Grünewald) and SS Gen. W.C. Gorgas (SS Prinz Sigismund)

Photograph #2 is also 240 mm in length and 175 mm in height and glued to a larger, 355 mm x 220mm, board than the first photograph. The board for this photograph is more interesting as it has many more notes from the engravers than the first one.

On the right hand side of the board the designers have specified a vertical reduction for the vignette to 7.4% of the original size; from 95 mm to 7 mm. Also on the board at the top is “Republic de Panama. 50 Cincuenta Centésimos de Balboa Used on Panama Stamp Eng(raved) by Geo Lambert & finished by R Savage.”

Several times the “Order No. F 6272” is noted but a second order number “F 6273” is also there but crossed out. Below the schedule “# 9463” is the date, Feb. 3, 1920. Also noted were the die number, “C1345,” and vignette “C1662.” At the top left in manuscript “April 12” appears, apparently the date that they finished engraving the second and final vignette.

Photo #2 was removed from the board and turned over. Glued on the back are the specifications of the stamp from the Canal Zone (Fig. 5). Above this, as an example of the color “Gold” requested for the frame, is a 5 centavos orange 1903 Mexico stamp, Scott No. 307.

A large die proof shown in Fig. 6 with handstamped “FOR



Fig. 5 Back of dry dock Photo #2 showing Canal Zone stamp specifications and 5c Mexican stamp to indicate the color of the frame

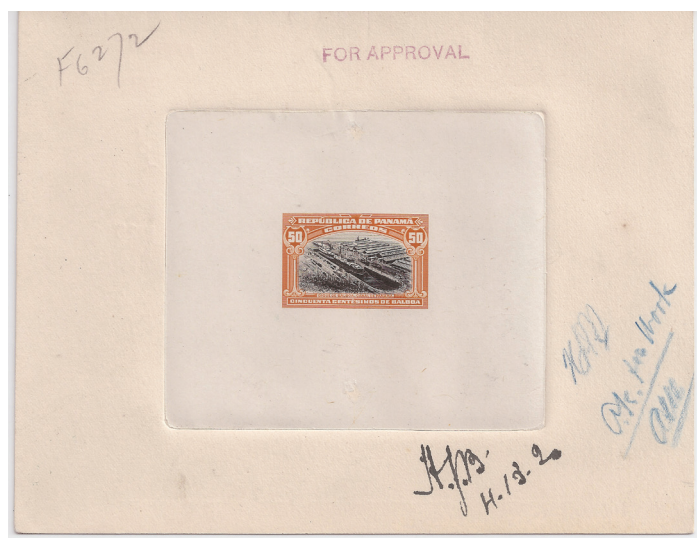


Fig. 6 Approved 50c die proof

APPROVAL” was marked “O.K. for Work” on April 13. It is on a 157x120 mm card with die sinkage 87 x 72 mm, and on the back is the approval stamp of the engraving department (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7 Stamp of approval on back of die proof

May 1920. Two plate proof sheets on light card of 100 vignettes and 100 frames, in the colors as issued, were printed and approved on two different dates (Figs. 8a, 8b, 9, 10). These plate proofs are no longer intact, having been cut into many pieces after being sold at the ABNCo archive sale in 1990.

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Cincuenta Centésimos (50c) Stamp

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Over time we have been able to reassemble most of the key positions. On May 4, the frame plate proofs were approved and this date is stamped on the back, as seen in Fig. 9. At the top right is the order number “F 6272” engraved in the issued orange color.

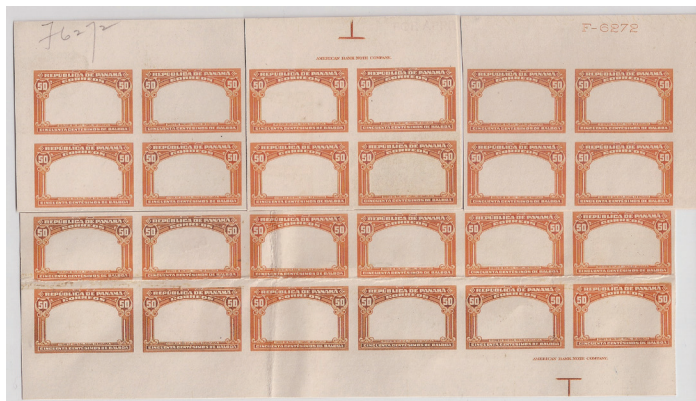


Fig. 8a Composite of frame plate proofs in issued color with foreign order F-6272 in color of frame



Fig. 8b Approved plate proof of 50c frame with order number F 6272

The vignette plate proofs were not approved until May 13. Engraved at the top is “REPUBLIC OF PANAMA – 50c STAMP- F-6267.” (Fig. 9) The Foreign order number here is incorrect and even though F6272 was in red manuscript, the error apparently was not noticed by anyone approving the proofs and the error carried through to the issued stamps.

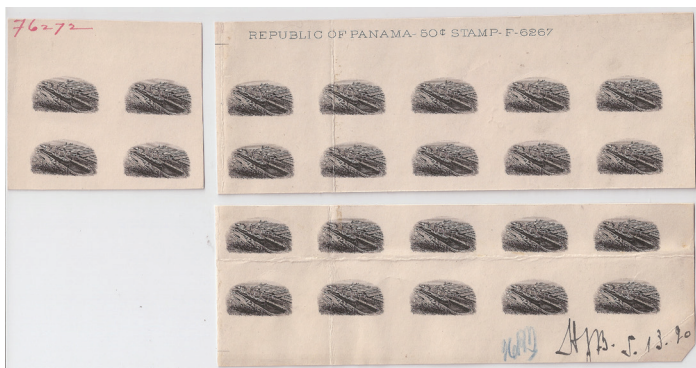


Fig. 9 Approved plate proof of 50c vignette with incorrect engraved order number F-6267

On May 14 the plates received the approval of the engraving department and the Superintendent of the ABNCo as shown in Fig. 10.

October 1933: The ABNCo printed cancellation impressions of the 50c stamp. Except for the colors of the frames, which are green, these plate proofs are identical to the 1920 plate proofs. They were given a new order number,



Fig. 10 Vignette proof plates approved by Superintendent, May 14, 1920

F 9756, and on the vignette proofs someone noticed that the engraved number was wrong and wrote “This order not Panama,” crossed out the wrong number and F6272 was written twice. The cancellation proofs were then approved and dated October 6, 10, 11 and 13, 1933 (Fig. 11 a and b).

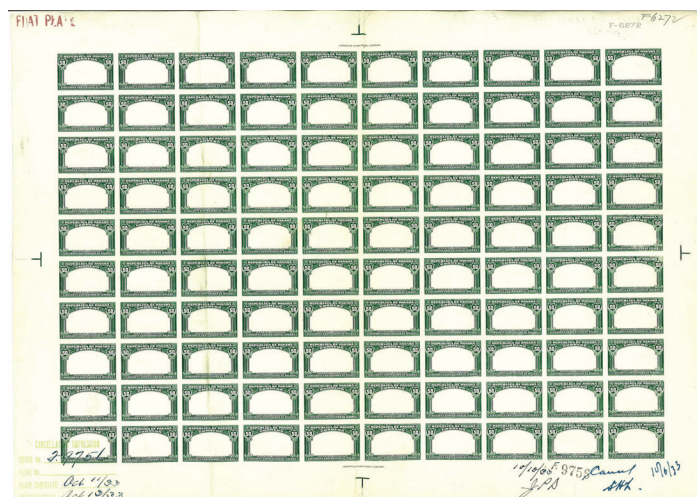


Fig. 11a Cancellation impressions of the frames, 1933

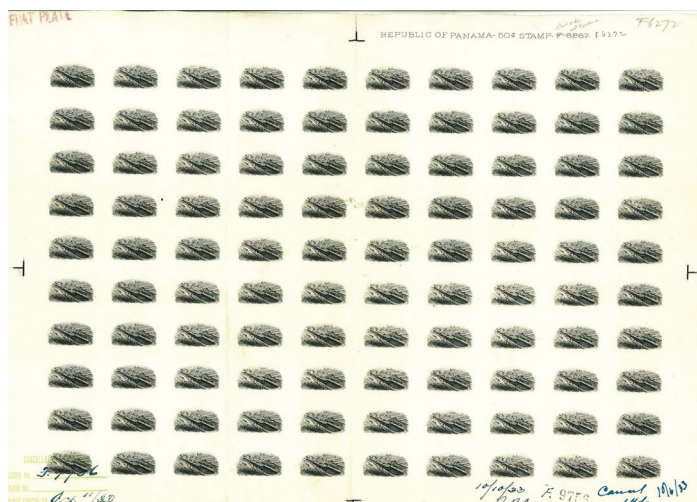


Fig. 11b Cancellation impressions of the vignettes, 1933, with “This order not Panama” in manuscript at the top by F-6267

Die Proof Numbering

The ABNCo die proof numbering system and changes to it have been covered previously. [1] The complete die proof in issued colors is shown in Fig. 12. Die number C-1345 is in the

orange color of the frame. Around 1924 the ABNCo vignette die number was changed from C-1662 to V 43143 and the frame die number changed from C-1345 to 31311 (Fig. 13). The only recorded die proof of the frame by itself is in black on stiff paper believed to have been in an envelope in the files of the ABNCo. There is a similar renumbered black die proof on the same type of paper for the vignette shown in Fig. 14.



Fig. 12 50 Centésimos die proof in issued colors. C-1345 and ABNCo in orange color of the frame



Fig. 13 Renumbered vignette die proof with original number C-1662 lined out and new number, V 43143, added



Fig. 14 Renumbered black die print with C-1345 lined out and new number, 31311, added

Print Date of the 50c Stamps

No print date is known but as discussed previously, it must have been between May and the middle of August 1920. [1]

Specimen Stamps

In the Christie's sale there were 3 sheets of specimen stamps for the Canal Zone 50c issue, but none for Panama. These Canal Zone sheets were fragile and often missing stamps and selvage. Each stamp had "SPECIMEN" overprinted in red and a small security hole punched through it. At the top of the panes were markings from rubber handstamps, "F 6272" in red, and "MARCH 22, 1920" in light purple. (Fig. 15). "REPUBLIC OF PANAMA – 50c STAMP- F-6267" is engraved here and the incorrect order number "F-6267" is above the stamp in position 9 as it appears on the cancellation plate proof sheet. The correct order number, "F-6272," is in the orange issued color of the frame and over the stamp in position 10 but is missing on this strip of specimen stamps.



Fig. 15 50c Specimen overprinted CANAL ZONE with ABNCo notations in upper margin

The Index Card

In the 1930s the ABNCo had Index Cards made for each stamp. On each card there was either a plate proof or stamp. The Panama Index Cards have been dispersed amongst collectors and the card for this stamp has not been reported since 1991. Fortunately, before these were split up and sold, Jim Helme wrote an article in the *Collectors Club Philatelist* [3] and listed all of the information found on each Index Card. The card for the 50c stamp confirms the die numbers and names of engravers for the vignette. Thomas Bickett engraved the frame. The color was orange 59 not yellow 59 as shown on the order form in Fig. 1.

Table 1 - Original and Renumbered 50c Die Proofs with Engraver and Finisher Names

Die proof	Original Die Number (1920)	New Die Number (ca 1924)	Engraved by	Finished by
50c vignette	Special C 1662	V 43143	George Lambert	Robert Savage
50c frame	C 1345	31311	Thomas Bickett	

Lot 4 from the 1990 ABNCo Archive Auction

In the Christie's auction of the ABNCo archives in 1990, lot 4 was described as "1858-1972, Sample Collection in two albums, a combination of stamps and proofs, some with 'Specimen' overprints and security punches, approximately 6,200 items pasted onto sheets including Latin America, Bahamas, China, Greenland, Hawaii, Belgium, Luxemburg and Canada, a few damaged stamps and a little discoloration from adhesive, unusual lot."

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Cincuenta Centésimos (50c) Stamp

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Since 1990 we have been using a black and white photocopy of these pages for research but the original pages for Panama, including the Canal Zone, are now available for study. A report will be published in the future. The example for the 50c stamp on the pages from lot 4 is an imperforate plate proof on thin paper in issued colors. Unlike some of the other Panama stamps, no 50c or \$1 imperforate plate proofs on thin paper in issued colors were in the ABNCo Archive sale nor have any been reported. Therefore it appears that these 50c and 1B thin paper plate proofs from Lot 4 are unique.

On the proof in Fig. 16, "3/20" is the order month and year, March 1920, and the Foreign order number is "6272," the number on the frame plate, not "6267," the number on the vignette plate.



Fig. 16 Dry dock imperforate plate proof on thin paper in issued colors

Contribution of the ABNCo Archives to the Understanding of Panama's 1920 50c Stamp Design and Manufacturing Process

The order form verified that, like the \$1 stamp, only 50,000 stamps were produced for the Canal Zone and 50,000 for Panama. This corrects the previously published estimate in *Canal Zone Stamps* that as many as 100,000 50c stamps were printed just for the Canal Zone.

From the back of the dry dock photograph we now know that the Canal Zone ordered the stamps with the denomination to be in US currency and text in English. Panama changed this to Panama currency and Spanish but the Canal Zone's requests were followed in the selvage at the top of the sheets of stamps.

One of the more interesting items not found in the production material was any mention by the ABNCo

management that the wrong order number was engraved in the selvage of the vignette. It appears that it was not until 1933 when the plates were cancelled that someone noticed that F- 6267 had been engraved and not F- 6272.

The Index Card gave the name of the engraver of the frame as (Thomas) Bickett and the color was Orange 59, closer to the 5 centavos orange/gold 1903 Mexico stamp sent by the Canal Zone, not Yellow 59 as on the order form.

Note: This paper will be published simultaneously in COPACARTA as was done for the previous papers regarding the \$1 stamp.

References

- [1] David Zemer, "Design of the 1920 Panama and Canal Zone One Balboa Stamp," *COPACARTA* 32(3): 4-15, 20 (2014); David Zemer, "Design of the 1920 Panama and Canal Zone One Balboa Stamp," *CZP* 50(1): 1-8 (2014).
- [2] David Zemer, "Mail Related to Enemy Interned in the Canal Zone and Panama During World War I," *CZP* 45(4): 37, 40-43 (2009).
- [3] James B. Helme, "Panama: American Bank Note Co. Index Cards: Issue Other than Airmails," *The Collectors Club Philatelist* 70(2): 107 (1991).

Auctions

by Jim Crumpacker

The auction offerings of Canal Zone philately for the second calendar quarter, April 1-June 30, 2014, were meager. A few high catalog value items did add spice to a couple of sales.

Fifteen or so blocks of the CZ SPECIMEN issues were made available by Kelleher. All apparently sold and realized about \$25 per stamp.

Presented below are some results from the quarter. The first price seen is the total of hammer plus commission and is followed in parentheses by the value from the 2014 *Scott Specialized Catalogue*.

- 2, OG, H, F \$189 (\$300) Kelleher
- 10a, inverted overprint, OG, NH, XF \$312 (\$225) Spink Shreves
- 15, 15a, Pos. 1 w/ PANAMA reading down at left and up at right in Bl. 4 with 3 normals, to include the left selvage, TG, few perf. seps. o/w F-VF \$9775 (\$14500) R.A. Siegel
- 15, F-VF on VF cover w/ F pair of #16 added, 4/24/06 Tabernilla to J.C. Perry, rec'd Ancon 4/25/06, ex Salz \$7475 (\$10000) R.A. Siegel
- 22g, invt'd center w/ overprint reading up, TG, HR, small adhesion o/w VF \$2300 (\$3750) Cherrystone
- 31a, invt'd center and ovpt reading down, used, sm. crease o/w F, \$21850 (\$22500) Cherrystone
- 47, OG, H, VG \$2070 (\$3250) Cherrystone

The names and addresses of the firms that sold these lots are shown below.

Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers 119 57th St. New York, NY 10019	R.A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. 60 East 56th St. New York, NY 10022
Kelleher Auctions 60 Newtown Rd., PMB #44 Danbury, CT 06810	Spink Shreves Galleries 145 W. 57th St., 18th Fl. New York, NY 10019

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Study Group News

President's Report

David Zemer

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Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Opening of the Panama Canal

We had a great start to our Centennial celebrations April 26 at WESTPEX where the most awards ever earned by Panama Canal exhibits at a major stamp show were displayed.

We will close out our centennial year at CHICAGOPEX November 21-23 with close to 50 frames of Panama Canal exhibits competing for awards. In addition we will have our meeting and presentations by several members. This is a great opportunity to view many of the outstanding exhibits that we have heard about but have never seen and to meet their owners. Please try and make it to this show as it may be your only opportunity to see so many great exhibits at one time.

The Panama Canal Centennial Celebration at the University of Florida

From August 15-17 the Smathers Library, now the depository of the Panama Canal Museum at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection put on a terrific 3-day Panama Canal Centennial Celebration. The Library made 200 100th Anniversary medals to be given to anyone who paid \$100 to join the Panama Canal Centennial Club. A Zonian helped support the research of the American Panama Canal era by donating an additional \$10,000. At last count about 50 medals were still available to anyone joining the Centennial Club. A philatelic connection was made when I met Al Sprague, the artist who painted Scott No. 165, "Towing Locomotive - Ship in Lock." Check with <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/panamacanalcentennial/Index.aspx> for an overview of all the events that weekend and for information on joining the Centennial Club.

Membership Dues to Increase in 2015

Given that our operating costs were about \$7,000 in the red last year, at WESTPEX the Board discussed raising the membership dues. The Executive Committee has approved the following annual dues structure starting next year:

Regular Member \$12, Contributing Member \$24, Sustaining Member \$35. As in the past the Regular Membership dues do not cover our costs and we hope, as has been the case since 1952, many members choose to be Contributing or Sustaining Members.

WANTED

#9 Stages I & II, Sheets only

#10 Stages I & II, Sheets only

#12 Stages I, II, III & IV, Sheets & Blocks

#13 Stages I, II & III, Sheets & Blocks

Unused & Used. Approvals accepted.

If you don't know the stage, I am happy to examine any item.

Geoffrey Brewster 480-607-7184

6453 E STALLION RD. • PARADISE VALLEY AZ 85253

CHICAGOPEX November 21-23, 2014

Canal Zone Exhibits at CHICAGOPEX

We are blessed with an exciting lineup of Canal Zone and Panama exhibits to be shown competitively at CHICAGOPEX 2014. Exhibit topics extend from the mail pertaining to the early French *Canal du Panama* to the 1964 Golden Anniversary Series. Issues covered will be the 1904 overprint issue, 1920 50c stamp, overprints on Panama's 1909 ABNCo Portrait designs, US stamps overprinted Canal Zone, booklet panes and covers of the US possessions, and Canal Zone postal stationery. Postal history topics featured will be Canal Zone World War I mail censorship, early airmail on international mail, Canal Zone registered mail, and Canal Zone postal rates. We are fortunate to have such a wide variety of Canal Zone topics on display to complement our second convention of this year.

CZSG Presentations at CHICAGOPEX

Friday, Nov. 21st and Sunday, Nov. 23rd

We have several presentations scheduled in connection with the convention, with a fine variety of topics. It is not too late to volunteer to present, so if you are interested in talking about your favorite Canal Zone or Panama subject, please contact Dickson Preston at dicksonp@u.washington.edu or 206-283-0754.

Secretary's Report

Mike Drabik

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czsgsecretary@gmail.com

Hello to all my fellow Canal Zone enthusiasts. I hope this report finds everyone doing well after a wonderful summer and enjoying this issue of the *Canal Zone Philatelist*. My report for the third quarter of 2014 is as follows:

As of August 24, 2013 the Canal Zone Study Group has 536 members listed with annual dues paid in full for 2014. (Unfortunately there are still 21 CZSG members who have not responded to multiple requests for payment of their 2014 membership dues and they will not be receiving this CZP issue.)

Please join me in welcoming 6 new members:

William Sherman, CZSG #2741	Sergio Sismondo, CZSG #2744
Diann Pinkowski, CZSG #2742	Robert H. Feldman, CZSG #2745
Nicholas Liakopoulos, CZSG #2743	Albert Curulli, CZSG #2746

We have been notified of changes to the addresses for the following CZSG members:

David L. Farnsworth, CZSG #165	Steven F. Chown, CZSG #2700
Leonard G. Lukens, CZSG #331	

We have been asked to remove the following members from our CZSG membership list:

George Stephenson, CZSG #809	George A. Douglas, CZSG #2494
Joseph D. Ellis, CZSG #870	Walter E. Klinger, CZSG #2566
Francois LaFrance, CZSG #2123	Donald S. Schultz, CZSG #2687
Dr. David N. Malinov, CZSG #2362	Al Jorgenson, CZSG #2714

It is with great sadness and condolences to their families that I have been notified of the passing of our fellow CZSG members:

John Bahlman, CZSG #897	Ted A. Olivera, CZSG #2589
Raymond H. Cordes, CZSG #1040	Glenn Cornell, CZSG #2695
Garvin F. Lohman, CZSG #1635	

Let's all make a commitment to ask one person per month to become a CZSG member in the coming months before my next report.

CZSG Regional Meeting at NOJEX 2014 by George R. Campbell



Meeting Attendees (L to R): Seated: Elliot Coleman, Mike Demski, Cary Finder, George Campbell; Standing: Doug Hankin, Des Fitzgerald, Tom Griffin, Rob Loeffler, Dick Bates, Joe Napp

The eighth consecutive CZSG Regional Meeting hosted by the Metro Chapter was held at NOJEX 2014 on Saturday, May 31. Ten members attended the 2-hour meeting (see photo caption for attendees). Metro Chairman George Campbell opened the meeting by sadly noting the passing of Dorothy Weiss at age 102. Dorothy was a fixture at New York City philatelic auctions, bidding on behalf of her son, Gary. The Metro Chapter had celebrated her 100th birthday at NOJEX 2012.

CZSG Vice President and NOJEX liaison Mike Demski gave a brief report on matters discussed by the CZSG at WESTPEX 2014. These topics included the need to modify the CZSG dues structure due to increasing costs and declining membership; a forthcoming Mail Sale; the many awards garnered by CZSG members at WESTPEX; the pending distribution of a 100th Anniversary Canal Opening souvenir sheet; and a proposed project to copy pertinent Canal Zone records held at the National Archives.

Dr. Cary Finder posed a question on postal rates between the US and Canal Zone during the period of US participation in World War I (ca. 1917-1919). The US had a one-cent surcharge on "domestic" letters and post cards, but these rates were not adopted by the Canal Zone. Dr. Finder asked whether anyone had seen examples of the "war rate" on inbound covers to the Canal Zone (there were no affirmative responses). He also asked whether anyone had seen cancelled examples of penalty-overprinted CZ postal stationery stamped envelopes (UPSS Nos. 21p, 26p, 28p, 29p). Used prices are listed in the UPSS catalog, which is undergoing revision. No one in attendance could recall seeing examples of cancellations on these envelopes. Cancelled examples are known for the postal cards (UPSS S19p), particularly for the Philatelic Agency announcement cards.

Canal Zone Philatelist Editor Dick Bates gave a presentation on broken letters found on the Second Series (Scott Nos. 4-8). He noted the repeated occurrence of broken letters in various positions, which are sometimes, but not always, consistent. He postulated that several overprinting forms, perhaps on different presses, may have been used, given the large press run. This theory was supported by Joe Napp, who has extensively studied the plates used for US-overprinted stamps.

The meeting concluded with the customary "Show 'N Tell" session, with several unusual items being circulated among the attendees.

Insufficient Postage for Dispatch by Air by Paul F. Ammons

While working up the Trans-Pacific portion of my air mail exhibit for WESTPEX 2014, I discovered a new Miscellaneous Notice (MisN) – 9 'Insufficient Postage for Dispatch By Air...' handstamp. [1]

The all capital letter MisN-9e, Fig. 1, or one of its camel-cased siblings (9, 9a, 9b, and 9c), was applied to letters franked with insufficient postage for carriage by scheduled air mail service from the CZ.



Fig. 1 Insufficient postage marking MisN-9e

In 1941, the air mail letter rate from the CZ to the US was 15c per ½ oz. and the steamer-plane rate to the US was 6c for the first oz. The one oz. cover shown in Fig. 2 was, therefore, underpaid by 20c and duly marked with MisN-9c, Fig. 3a. As sufficient postage to meet the Steamer-Plane rate was provided, the envelope additionally received MisN-9f, Fig. 3b, and the letter departed the CZ by surface/steamer and, at the first opportunity, was expedited by air mail within the US.

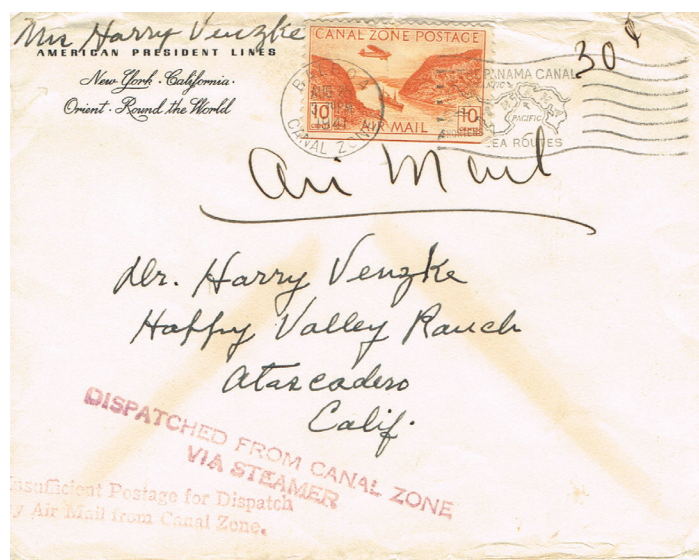


Fig. 2 Cover underpaid by 20c for air mail from the CZ to the US



Fig. 3 a) Insufficient postage marking and b) Dispatched via Steamer marking, both from cover in Fig. 2

When mail was to be transported by air service across two or more legs, and there was sufficient postage for the CZ to, and through, the US leg, but insufficient postage for the subsequent leg(s), a different situation developed.

From 1938 to 1944, the Trans-Pacific air mail letter rate from the US to the Far East was 70c per ½ oz. and the Trans-Pacific surface letter rate was 5c per oz.

While franked with a single air mail stamp, the air mail envelope shown in Fig. 4 was clearly intended to be carried by surface from the US to the Far East.

The cover shown in Fig. 5 was franked with two air mail



Fig. 4 Cover to Korea by surface mail with air mail service from CZ to US



Fig. 5 Cover with insufficient postage for air mail service to New Zealand

stamps and had a 'By Air Mail' label. But the cover had insufficient postage for Trans-Pacific air service.

As a result, the new handstamp, Fig. 6, was applied, indicating that the letter was to be carried by surface mail upon leaving the US.



Fig. 6 New Insufficient Postage marking

Basically, the new hand stamp is similar to MisN-9f; however, the word 'Mail' has been removed.

Does anyone have additional examples of this new marking or of any other previously undocumented 'Insufficient Postage...' auxiliary markings?

References

- [1] Entwistle, Lawson P., *The Postal Markings of the Canal Zone, Second Edition*, Handbook No. 9, Canal Zone Study Group, 1992, pg. 146.

Discoveries Related to CZ Postal Cards Part 3 – Three Printings of 4c Interim Postal Card CZ UX14

by Richard D. Bates, Jr. and Irwin Gibbs

The rate for postal cards had been established at 3c on August 1, 1958, but was raised to 4c on January 7, 1963, and remained at that level until it was raised to 5c on January 7, 1968. The need for a 4c postal card to meet the new rate in 1963 was apparent, but no card was ordered in advance of the change in rates.

A permanent 4c card UX15 was eventually prepared, being issued on August 12, 1965, more than two years after the rate change became effective. In the interim a temporary card was created by adding a 1c surcharge in green to the left of the 3c design of UX12, creating the 3c + 1c card UX13. But eventually the stock of the 3c card UX12 that could be surcharged to meet the 4c rate was exhausted, and a second interim measure was necessary to create a supply of 4c cards until the design for the new 4c card could be prepared.

That interim measure created the UX14 card by taking the 4c die 124322 previously used for revaluing postal stationery by adding 4c to the face value to create UC7, and modifying it by removing the AIR MAIL that was incorporated in the design. This former revaluation die was then applied to a blank card to create UX14 (S23). An example with the first day cancellation is shown in Fig. 1.

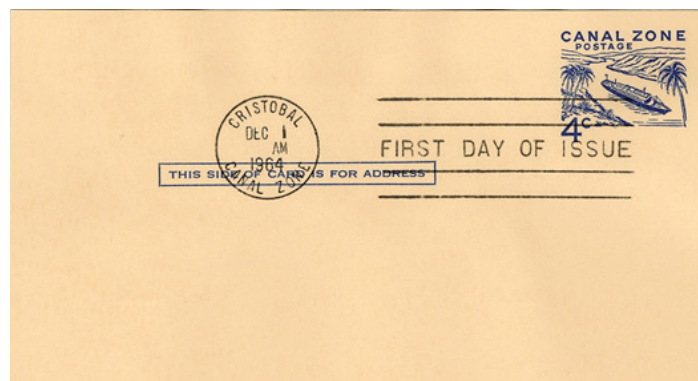


Fig. 1 UX14 first printing marked October 1964 with first day cancellation

Canal Zone Postal Stationery provides some understanding of the process that led to the creation of UX14 (S23), saying that "because of depleted stocks of S21 and S22, and the lead time for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to prepare a new die for a 4c postal card, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing removed the words "AIR MAIL" from an existing die, 124321, creating a new die, 124322." (In fact, as reported recently in *CZP* 49(4): 48 (2013), the altered die was 124322; die 124321 still exists in unaltered form.) This die was used by the Panama Canal Press at La Boca to print a new definitive postal card, S23. Documents from the CZPS in the NPM provide understanding of the sequence of steps that led to the creation of an interim card, with the result that there actually were three printings of this card and that the cards produced in the three printings differ slightly in color, as shown in Fig. 2.

A memo from B.I. Everson, Civil Affairs Director to Governor on October 12, 1964 addressed the need for 4c Postal Cards under the subject line "Postal card domestic Mail":

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Discoveries related to CZ Post Cards

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Fig. 2 Examples of the design from the three printings of UX14 (S23)

1. About a year ago due to an increase in the postal rates for all domestic mail matter, the remaining stock of 3c domestic postal cards in the Postal Service's vault were revalued to the revised 4c rate by adding the 1c design which is shown on the attached sample card. The present stock of these cards is almost exhausted and it is necessary to reorder. Our FY 1965 budget provides for this reordering.
2. The director of posts has suggested that the present design of the original 3c card be used changing the denomination from 3c to 4c and changing the color from blue to brown. The Canal Zone Stamp Advisory Committee concurs with that proposal.
3. It is recommended that you approve revised printing of the domestic rate postal cards using the present design of the ship in the locks, changing the denomination from 3c to 4c, and the color from blue to a light brown similar to the color of the 1 ½c stamp affixed to the sample card.

It has a handwritten note "Returned by Parker/Cancelled." (David S. Parker was Lt. Governor of the Canal Zone in the early 60s.)

A memo to the Director of Posts from B.I. Everson two days later on October 14, 1964 revealed the following:

I discussed with the acting Governor the need for an interim 4c blank card to take care of your requirements until a new 4c stamp can be designed and cards printed at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The Acting Governor has approved the recommendation of using the 4c airmail die with the word "Airmail" deleted and having this printing done by the Panama Canal Press.

In view of the fact that we can get these cards on a rather short time basis I suggest that we have printed only the minimum number of cards which will be needed until our new issue can be printed and delivered. Your recommendation that the color of this [interim] stamp be blue has also been accepted by the Acting Governor. This is your authority to proceed.

As the supply of UX14 became depleted and the new die for the 4c "Ship in a Lock" card, UX15 (S24), was not ready, the interim card UX13 was reprinted almost immediately after the first day, and reprinted again approximately six months later. The permanent 4c card (UX15) was finally issued on August 12, 1965.

The color for the card as approved was blue, but the color in Scott is given as violet blue. *Canal Zone Postal Stationery*

gives the color as violet blue in early editions, but as violet in the recent 2009 edition. The resulting variations of ink color during the three printings may account for these differences.

If the only thing to come out of the information from the CZPS files now at the NPM is the awareness that there were three printings and to provide an understanding for the reasons the three were made, this would be a minor revelation. The files include three sheets of ordinary white paper with the typed notation identifying the printing and the date, plus two cards as examples glued to each. These are the basis for identifying the three printings and the colors of the cards produced in each printing. The shades of the violet blue on each of the three printings are slightly but noticeably different, when the three are laid side-by-side. One of the cards on the sheet marked as first printing has a first day cancel (see Fig. 1), and the date of the second printing came after the first day of issue for the card. Unless some cards from the second printing were given a back-dated first day cancel of December 1st, all of the first day covers should be from the first printing, so they should form the baseline for identifying the colors. Saying that they are different to the naked eye is significant as it indicates that collectors have something to look for, but there are modern scientific techniques that can show the colors are significantly different based on scientific criteria. The instrument used measures the wavelength characteristics of the light reflected from the violet blue design when the area to be tested is illuminated by the instrument's light source. With the help of Tom Lera of the National Postal Museum, the color profiles of two different cards for each of the three printings showed that measurements of the blue ink from several different locations in the design of both cards for each printing were indistinguishable within the criteria of the instrument, but that the measurements from cards from different printings were different and can be distinguished based on the criteria for the instrument. Translating those measurements into words to describe the differences in color is much more difficult, as the differences, though clearly noticeable, are admittedly slight. Simplifying considerably, the progression from the first to the third printing produced a blue color that became progressively deeper, from blue, to violet blue, to dark violet blue, as summarized in Table 1. Hopefully the differences will show in the scans for the three printings shown in Fig. 2. It should be noted that the same types of measurements were made on the buff color card stock used to produce the postal cards, and the six cards, two each for each of the three printings, gave identical color profiles within the ability of the instrument to distinguish. Thus the differences in the violet blue color of the design are not due to differences in the card stock used, and they should provide an opportunity for a collector to find examples of the different printings of the interim card, UX14 (S23).

Table 1 - Printings and Colors for Canal Zone Postal Card UX14 (S23)

Printing	Date	Color
First	October 1964	Blue
Second	December 3, 1964	Violet blue
Third	May 12, 1965	Dark violet blue

Figures are provided courtesy of the National Postal Museum, thanks to Jim O'Donnell.